

Message Text

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ACTION EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSF-02

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-05 SS-15 SP-02

INT-05 DOTE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 /105 W

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R 300535Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4439

UNCLAS TOKYO 15471

E.9. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, SENV JA, US

SUBJECT: EMISSION STANDARDS FOR MOTORCYCLES

1. EPA'S OCT. 23 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH EMISSION CONTROL STANDARDS FOR MOTORCYCLES EFFECTIVE IN 1978 HAS PROMPTED JAPANESE MOTORCYCLE MANUFACTURERS TO BEGIN STUDYING THEIR STRATEGIES SERIOUSLY, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS.

2. MANUFACTURERS' REACTIONS VARY ACCORDING TO TYPES OF ENGINE THEY PRODUCE. SUZUKI, MANUFACTURER OF TWO-CYCLE ENGINE MOTORCYCLES, CONSIDERS THE PROPOSED 1980 EMISSION CONTROL STANDARDS "OUT OF THE QUESTION". THE COMPANY FINDS IT "DIFFICULT" TO MEET EVEN THE PROPOSED 1978-79 STANDARD.

3. HONDA, MANUFACTURER OF FOUR-CYCLE ENGINE MOTORCYCLES, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS TAKING A RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC ATTITUDE. THE FIRM SAID IT WILL BE ABLE TO MEET THE PROPOSED 1978-79 STANDARDS SIMPLY BY IMPROVING THE CONVENTIONAL ENGINE AND THAT, ALTHOUGH THE 1980 STANDARDS SEEM DIFFICULT TO ATTAIN AT THIS TIME, IT WOULD STRIVE TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL BY THE DESIGNATED DATE.

4. YAMAHA HAS ANNOUNCED POLICY OF SWITHING ITS LARGE MODELS FROM TWO TO FOUR CYCLE ENGINES WHICH ARE MORE AMENABLE TO EMISSION

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CONTROLS.

5. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS LIKELY THAT JAPANESE MOTORCYCLE MANUFACTURERS WILL REQUEST EPA TO RELAX THE PROPOSED STANDARDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE FOR 1980, BEFORE FORMAL STANDARDS ARE WORKED OUT AFTER THE 90-DAY PERIOD DURING WHICH EPA IS SCHEDULED TO HEAR OPINIONS FROM THOSE CONCERNED WITH ITS PROPOSALS.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 30 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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